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ABSTRACT

The report of the Advisor to American Indian students covers 3 quarters of the academic year 1969-70 at Montana State University (MSU). During that period, the advisor worked on a 3/4 time basis to give help and guidance to American Indian students trying to finish a 4-year degree program. In preparation for this, the advisor visited 6 Montana reservations in August and September 1969 to meet with students who would attend MSU that fall. The most prevalent student problems were finances, low grades, dropping courses, and absenteeism. The document gave, for each quarter, the number of Indian students enrolled, counseling and tutorial services given, student activities, and end of quarter grades. (KM)

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REPORT OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT ADVISOR

ACADEMIC YEAR 1969 - 70

BY

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INTRODUCTION

This is a report prepared by the Advisor to American Indian students enrolled at Montana State University. It attempts to review the duties and activities performed by the Advisor during the academic year, 1969 - 70.

PURPOSE OF OFFICE

Montana State University has appointed an Advisor to American Indian students on a 3/4 time basis in the hope that more Indian students will succeed in finishing a four-year degree program. The Advisor has worked toward this goal by giving help and guidance to these students.

PREPARATORY WORK

The Advisor visited six of the seven reservations in Montana during August and September, 1969. (The Fort Peck Reservation was not visited by the Advisor because only one Indian student was planning to enroll as a freshman.) The Advisor met and visited with the Indian students who were planning to attend Montana State University during the 1969-70 academic year. He answered questions concerning the University, helped students with housing applications, etc.

The Education Specialist (BIA) on each reservation was visited by the Advisor and they discussed the potential of the students planning to enroll at Montana State University. Several high schools that graduate Indian students were visited by the Advisor and he met and visited with the school administrators and counselors. Several parents and tribal leaders on each reservation were interviewed. All the people whom the Advisor met and visited

on the reservations were pleased that Montana State University was providing help and guidance to the Indian students.

FRESHMAN WEEK ACTIVITIES

During Orientation Week the Advisor met and visited with all the new freshman and transfer Indian students. Several Indian students were having financial problems and the Advisor was able to help by calling the Education Specialist on the reservation or the BIA Area Office in Billings or by contacting the MSU Financial Aid Office. The Advisor had conferences with the students to help the students set up their courses and schedules. On registration day, the Advisor assisted students in registering.

The Orientation Week provided an opportunity for the Advisor to meet and have a conference with all the new Indian students.

AUTUMN QUARTER, 1969

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

A total of 54 Indian students enrolled at Montana State University Autumn Quarter, 1969. Of these 54 students, 36 were upperclass students (4 transfer students) and 18 were freshman students. Of the total 54 Indian students enrolled at Montana State University during autumn quarter, 33 were boys and 21 girls.

During the quarter a total of three students quit school. One freshman student left after four weeks due to poor grades. One junior student left around mid-quarter due to infectious mononucleosis. Another junior student left after mid-quarter due to a heart murmur. Both of the upperclass students were very good students.

COUNSELING

A total of 178 student-Advisor conferences were held during the Autumn Quarter with 42 Indian students. Sixteen students had five or more conferences with the Advisor. The most prevalent problems were concerning finances, low grades, dropping courses and absenteeism.

Several students had little or no money (BIA or Tribal) left after registration to buy books, supplies and personal items. The Advisor was able to help some students get more money by contacting the Reservation Principals and the BIA Area Office in Billings. Several students borrowed up to $20. from the special Indian fund that was set up in the Center for Intercultural Programs for Indian Students. Many students receiving low grades did not attend classes regularly. Lack of interest in subject matter was the major reason given by students for absenteeism.

Several students had conferences with the Advisor to discuss changing curriculum, dropping courses, tutoring, and personal problems.

The Advisor kept an accurate daily diary of the students counseled, of the problems encountered by the students, the social and cultural activities of the Indian Club, etc. Personal folders for each student contained records of student-Advisor conferences, student problems, grades, etc.

TUTORING

Of the 54 Indian students enrolled Autumn Quarter, 21 were reported with grades of "D", "T", or "F" at mid-quarter. Fourteen of these were freshmen and seven were upperclass students. The following list includes all courses that Indian students were reported in at mid-quarter:

Subject	No.	Credits	No. of Students Reported
A & ME (Engr. Graphics)	111	2	1
Agr. (Ag. Orient.)	100	1	1
Bot. (Principles of Biol)	104	4	2

Subject	No.	Credits	No. of Students Reported
Chem. (Int. Gen and Biol)	121	4	1
Chem. (Gen. Chem.)	131	3	3
Econ. (Am. Econ.)	201	3	1
Engl. (Intro. Comm.)	121	4	3
Engl. (Intro. Lit.)	123	4	1
Geol. (Phys. Geol.)	101	4	1
IA (Auto Mech.)	311	5	1
Math (Intro.Mod.Math)	107	4	1
Math (Elem. of Math)	114	5	4
Math. (Elem. of Math)	115	5	2
Math (Cal. & Anal. Geom)	121	5	1
MB (Micro Rel Man)	101	4	3
N (Fund Hlth Nurs)	150	3	2
PE (Ball Gymnas)	113	1	1
PE (Swimming)	168	1	1
Psy (Gen. Psy)	101	3	1
Soc (Intro. Soc)	101	3	1
Z&E (Princ. Biol)	104	4	1

The Advisor had conferences with the students reported at mid-quarter. Thirteen of these students had conferences to discuss getting a tutor to help them and six students decided to have extra help. The students who did not ask for tutors felt they hadn't applied themselves and could bring their grades up without any extra help.

The Advisor was able to provide tutors, who were recommended by the departments, to help students desiring extra help. The tutors were paid from $2.00 to $3.00 an hour. The big problem with tutoring was that the Indian students met with their tutors infrequently and therefore the tutors were unable to help the students very much. Of the six students who were tutored, five were tutored in math and one in chemistry. Of the five students who were tutored in math, 4 freshmen dropped and one upperclass student quit school. The student who had help in chemistry received a "D".

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

On October 16, the first meeting of the Indian Club was held in the SUB. There were 18 Indian students present. An election of officers was held and Dale Old Horn, a sophomore,

was elected President; Tom Brown, a freshman, was elected Vice-President; Colleen Old Elk, a sophomore, was chosen Secretary-Treasurer; and Roy Doore, a junior, was named Historian. After the meeting adjourned, refreshments were served.

The next meeting was held October 28, at the Museum Hayloft. Nineteen students were present and they made plans for a fall party.

On November 4, the Indian Club held a meeting to make plans to participate in the International Bazaar. Several Indian students participated.

The final plans for the fall party were discussed at the meeting on November 18. The students raised money by having several doughnut sales in the dormitories. The party was held at Mrs. Sally Old Coyote's home on November 22. About 20 students and several guests were present.

The last Club meeting for the Autumn quarter was held on December 9. The Club members discussed participating at the University of Montana Indian Youth Conference in May. Refreshments were served and the students sang and danced.

Through the meetings and activities, the Indian students had an opportunity to associate with students like themselves and adjust to campus life. The Advisor was present at all meetings throughout the quarter.

END OF QUARTER GRADES

The following list includes all courses that Indian students received grades of "D" or "F" for the Autumn Quarter, 1969:

Subject	No.	Credits	Number of Students Reported
A&ME (Engr. Graphics)	111	2	2
Agr (An. Sci. Agr.)	101	4	1
Art (Relf. Prntmkg)	241	4	1
Art (20th Cent.Art)	419	3	1
Bot (Prin. Bot)	104	4	2

Chem (Int. Gen and Bio)	121	4	2
Chem (Gen.Chem.)	131	3	1
Chem (Gen Chem Lab)	135	1	1
CE (CE Measurement)	201	4	2
Com (Typewriting)	105	2	1
Com (Off. Mach.)	230	3	1
Econ (Am. Econ.)	201	3	2
Econ (Microecon Prin.)	299	3	1
EE (Prob.Form Sol.)	101	2	1
Engl (Intro. Comm)	121	4	3
Engl (Intro.Lit)	123	4	2
Engl (Brit.Lit)	216	4	2
Govt. (Pol. Parties)	390	3	1
Hist. (Hist. Civ.)	105	3	1
Hist. (Hist.Latin Am.)	230	3	1
Hist. (Am.Hist.)	255	3	1
H Ec. (Child Dev.)	105	3	1
H Ec. (Found.HomeEc.)	108	2	1
H Ec. (Basic Nutrition)	331	4	1
IA (Power Mech.)	311	4	1
Math (Intro Mod. Math)	107	4	1
Math (Elem. Math)	114	5	4
Math (Elem. Math)	115	5	1
Math (Elem.Stat.)	116	4	2
Math (Cal.Anal.Geom)	121	5	2
Math (Cal.Anal.Geom)	123	5	1
MB (MB Rel.Man)	101	4	3
MLS (Int. Sp.)	201	3	1
Mus (Classroom Tchg)	341	3	1
N (Fund N)	150	3	2
Phil (Intro Phil)	212	3	1
Phys (class Mech.)	301	3	1
Phys (Mod.Phys)	331	3	1
PE (Activities)	101	1	1
Soc (Intro Soc)	101	3	8
Soc (Cult.Anthro)	115	4	1
Thtr (Intro.Th.Arts)	214	3	1
Thtr (Elem.Play Pro)	224	3	1

Eleven freshmen students and twelve upperclass students had unsatisfactory scholarship (less than 2 point) for the quarter.

WINTER QUARTER, 1970

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

There were 51 Indian students who enrolled at Montana State University Winter Quarter, 1970. One freshman student who completed the Autumn Quarter did not enroll for Winter Quarter. This student told the Advisor she was not mature enough for college and will try and get a job for a year or two. Later, the Advisor

was informed that the girl had married. Four upperclass students (boys) who completed the Autumn Quarter did not enroll for Winter Quarter. Three of these students planned to join the Armed Services and one planned to get a job. All of these five students had less than a two point for autumn quarter.

Three students who were not enrolled during autumn quarter enrolled for winter quarter. Two of these were graduate students (one quit after several weeks due to lack of finances). One student was a transfer student.

Of the 51 Indian students who enrolled for the winter quarter, one quit during the quarter (the above graduate student).

COUNSELING

The Advisor had personal conferences with 38 Indian students during the Winter Quarter. A Total of 167 student-advisor conferences were held. Fourteen students had five or more conferences with the Advisor. Of the 38 students who were counseled, 15 were freshmen and 23 were upperclass students.

The Indian students had several types of problems during the Winter Quarter. Twelve students had financial problems. Several students had part-time employment. Absenteeism was again a major problem Winter Quarter. Lack of interest in subject matter appears to be the major reasnn for cutting classes. Some students needed help in dropping courses, pre-scheduling, and changing curricula.

TUTORING

There were five students who asked for tutors in chemistry, economics and mathematics. Only one of the five students failed the course in which they were tutored.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

On January 13, a club meeting was held in the Museum Hayloft. The thirteen Indian students present discussed the University of Montana Kyi-Yo Indian Days and also talked about the possibility

of a party for Winter Quarter. After the meeting, refreshments were served and the students did some Indian dancing and singing.

The second meeting was held on February 13. Dr. Wayne Larson (Sociology) talked to the group about interviewing high school students during Spring vacation on the reservations. Several students decided to help him with this research project. There were 15 students present at this meeting.

Two Montana State University Indian students (Dale Old Horn and Coey Real Bird) attended a convocation of American Indian scholars at Princeton University, March 21-26. The goal of the convocation was to consider the most vital questions facing Indian people today.

END OF QUARTER GRADES

Of the 50 Indian students who finished the Winter Quarter, 1970, 21 students had unsatisfactory scholarship (less than 2 point) for the quarter. Of the 21 students, 9 were freshmen and 12 were upperclass students.

The following list includes all courses that Indian students received grades of "D" or "F" for the Winter Quarter, 1970:

Subject	No.	Credit	Number of Students Reported
A&ME (Engr.Graphics)	111	2	1
An Sci (Sheep Prod)	326	4	1
Art (Intro Art)	217	3	1
Bot (Princ. Biol)	104	4	1
Chem (Int. Gen & Bio)	121	4	3
Chem (Gen Chem)	131	3	1
Com (Risk and Insut.)	308	4	1
Com (Bus. Comm.)	309	3	1
Econ (Am.Econ)	201	3	2
Econ (Am Econ)	205	5	1
EM (Mechanics)	205	3	1
Engl (Mass Comm)	323	4	1
Geog (Intro Geog)	111	5	1
Geol (Phys Geol)	101	4	1
Govt. (Prin Pol Sci)	201	3	1
Govt. (Am Govt)	206	3	1
Hist (Hist.Civ.)	106	4	2

Subject	No.	Credits	Number of Students Reported
Hist. (Hist Lat Am)	231	3	1
H Ec (Marr Fam Life)	213	3	4
Math (Elem Algebra)	001	5	1
Math (Elem Math)	114	5	1
Math (Elem.Math)	115	5	1
Math (Cal & Anal Geom)	122	5	2
Mch-T (Heat & Air Cond.)	440	3	1
MB (Comm Dis Cont)	206	3	1
Mus (Mus Classroom Tch)	342	3	1
N (Fund Hlth N)	151	3	2
Phil (Intro Phil)	211	3	1
Phys (Col Phys)	206	4	1
Psy (Gen Psy)	101	3	2
Psy (Gen Psy)	102	3	1
Psy (Child Psy)	313	4	2
Soc (Soc Inst.)	102	3	1
Spch (Int. Spch)	122	4	1
Z&E (Gen. Zool)	108	5	1
Z&E (Anat & Physiol)	111	5	2

SPRING QUARTER, 1970

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

There were 43 Indian students enrolled at Montana State University Spring Quarter, 1970. Five freshman students who completed Winter Quarter did not enroll for Spring Quatter. Two of these students were suspended because of poor grades. The other three students had very poor grades and decided not to enroll Spring Quarter. Two upperclass students finished their requirements to be admitted to dental and veterinarian schools and did not enroll. Of the total 43 Indian students enrolled, 28 were boys and 15, girls.

COUNSELING

The Advisor had personal conferences with 26 Indian students during Spring Quarter. A total of 153 student-Advisor conferences were held during the Spring Quarter. Fourteen students had five or more conferences with the Advisor. The most prevalent problems were concerning finances, summer employment, dropping courses,

absenteeism and low grades.

Five students borrowed money from the Center for Intercultural Programs during Spring Quarter. Some students phoned their parents, tribal office, or BIA office in an attempt to get a few extra dollars. All BIA grant students did receive an extra $45.00 Spring Quarter. The Advisor was able to help several students get employment with the Forest Service by working with Mr. Donald Redman of the Gallatin National Forest and Miss Helen Lew from the Ogden office. Every Indian (boy or girl) that wanted a summer job had an opportunity to work for the Forest Service. The Reservation Principals were able to place some of the Indian students under the Work-Study Program.

Many of the students needed help in filling out application forms for tribal and federal grants for the 1970-71 school year.

TUTORING

Two Indian students decided to have tutors help them. One student received a "D" grade in the math course he was being tutored in, and the other student received an "F". The two students were very inconsistent in meeting with their tutors.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

On April 7, a Club meeting was held in the Museum Hayloft. Dale Old Horn and Coey Real Bird talked to the students about the convocation at Princeton they attended. Mr. Urban Bear, Small Business Administration Officer, came from Helena and discussed how Indians could borrow money from SBA and how it works. It was a very informative talk. After the meeting, refreshments were served.

The next meeting was held on May 5, to discuss the possibility of having a spring party. There wasn't enough interest for a party so the plans were dropped.

The final Club meeting was held on May 19 at Dr. Harriette Cushman's home. A tape recording of the NBC program entitled

"Stranger in His Own Land" was presented. Dennis Sun Rhodes gave a report on the Cheney, Washington, Indian Conference he and Dale Old Horn attended April 29 and 30. After the meeting was adjourned, refreshments were served by Dr. Cushman.

END OF QUARTER GRADES

Of the 43 Indian students who were enrolled Spring Quarter, 1970, eleven had unsatisfactory scholarship (less than 2 point) for the quarter. Of the eleven students, 6 were freshmen and 5 were upperclass students. Three Indian students received degrees Spring Quarter. Two received degrees in Secondary Education and one a Masters Degree in Fish and Wildlife.

The following list includes all courses that Indian students received grades of "D" or "F" for the Spring Quarter, 1970:

Subject	No.	Credits	Number of Students Reported
An Sci (Util Ag Prod)	201	4	1
Arch (Arch Const.)	212	3	1
Bot (Prin.Biol)	104	4	1
Chem (Fund.Org.Chem)	134	4	1
CE (Intro CE)	101	3	1
Com (Bus.Comm)	309	3	1
Econ (Macroecon Prin)	202	3	2
Econ (Am Econ)	205	5	1
Educ (Test Meas)	403	3	1
Engl (Intro Lit)	123	4	1
Engl (Delib Comm)	222	4	1
Engl (Tech Writg)	301	3	1
EM (Solid Mech)	310	4	1
Govt.(State Loc Govt)	208	3	1
Hist (Am Hist)	257	3	1
Math (Intro Mod Math)	109	4	1
Math (Elem Math)	115	5	1
Math (Elem Math)	117	5	2
Math (Bus Math)	119	5	1
MB (Micro Rel Man)	101	4	1
Phil (Intro Phil)	212	3	1
PE (Golf)	147	1	1
PE (Swimming)	168	1	1
PE (First Aid Adv)	221	3	1
Psy (Gen Psy)	101	3	1
Psy (Gen Psy)	102	3	1
Soc (Soc Inst.)	102	3	1
Thtr (Intro Th Arts)	214	3	1
Z&E (Anat. Physiol)	112	5	1

CONFERENCES WITH EDUCATORS

During the year the Advisor discussed Indian education with instructors, class advisors, department heads, and deans on the campus.

Each quarter the Advisor set up appointments for Mr. William Howard, State Supervisor of Indian Education; Mr. Verlin Belgarde, BIA Education Specialist and for several Reservation Principals to visit Indian students enrolled at Montana State University.